



THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church
3035 Mt. Pleasant Blvd. Roanoke, VA 24014

JULY 2019
540-427-3064 mpumc.church

Amazing generosity as Methodists gather in Roanoke



In addition to all the church business and inspiring worship, there was a lot of generosity expressed by the Methodists who converged on the Berglund Center for annual conference in June. The parking lot was filled with kits for relief work of UMCOR. We collected 36,296 hygiene kits, 14,243 school kits and 663 flood buckets! That's a value of over \$641,000! The food drive brought in almost 10,000 pounds of canned goods and boxed dry goods for

distribution right here in the local area! And over \$90,000 has been received to date for the annual conference special offering that goes to special projects in the U.S. and four other countries! Thank you to MPUMC for your generosity in assembling thirty hygiene kits, as well as for a generous annual contribution to the annual conference offering! Look what happens when we all do our part!

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

- JULY 7 Matthew 26:17-30
Take, eat this is my body
- JULY 14 Matthew 25:41-46
The judgment of the goats
- JULY 21 Ecclesiastes 12:1-7
Remember your Creator in your youth
- JULY 28 to be selected
- AUGUST 4 Ecclesiastes 4:7-12
Two are better off than one



BISHOP'S BIBLE CHALLENGE

- JULY 1-6 Deuteronomy 13-29
 Acts 4:1 – 7:21
- JULY 7-13 Deuteronomy 30-34 Obadiah 1
 Ruth 1-4 Psalms 1-9 Acts 7:22 – 10:23
- JULY 14-20 Psalms 10-28
 Acts 10:24 – 15:21
- JULY 21-27 Psalms 29-45
 Acts 15:22 – 19:20
- JULY 28 – AUGUST 3 Psalms 46-65
 Acts 19:21 – 23:15

The complete day-by-day list is available in printed form or online at vaumc.org.

NOTE: If you have items for the August newsletter, prepare in written form by July 28 and give or email to Robert or Jenny!

July school supply drive

JULY is our annual school supply drive for Henry Fork Service Center, sponsored by the UMW. Needed items include pencils, pencil top erasers, fat pinkie erasers, 3-ring pencil pouches, plastic 3-ring binders with pockets, wide-ruled notebook paper, black and white composition notebooks, spiral notebooks, highlighters, glue sticks, scissors, crayons, or \$\$\$. Collection boxes are in the back of the sanctuary and in the downstairs hallway! July 28 is the last day to receive supplies! We plan to deliver supplies on July 29 or 30, and enjoy a Dutch treat lunch afterward. Contact Karen Tate (427-1884) if you'd like to help deliver!



Message series - "TOUGH QUESTIONS"

Sometimes tough questions of faith never seem to get covered, so don't miss this series where Pastor Robert will tackle these tough questions in Sunday messages:

- JULY 14 What does our faith teach us about hell and the devil?
- JULY 21 How does our faith prepare us for aging and death?
- AUG. 4 What does our faith teach us about marriage?

OUR FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION

OUR PRESENCE

June 2	45	JUNE 2019 AVG.	51
June 9	51**		
June 16	48	JUNE 2018 AVG.	51
June 23	49		
June 30	61		

* includes Second Saturday

OUR GIFTS

June Budget Offerings	\$ 9,649.34
Average Monthly Need	\$ 8,826.00
Other June Income	\$ 1,118.00
Project Fundraiser (\$1,026), Samaritan Offering (\$49), Upper Room (\$21), Communion (\$17), Backpack (\$5)	

OUR PRAYERS, SERVICE AND WITNESS

Thank you for your daily prayers for the ministries of MPUMC, for sharing your prayer requests and praise reports, for giving time, energy and talents to make a positive witness for Christ and his church!

YOUR GIVING HAS RESULTS!

Thank you for your faithful giving during June. See the front page article for an update on our support of the special missions efforts that were a part of annual conference 2019!

The last report indicated that over \$34,000 had been raised for our district "SHARE THE LIGHT" project for Puerto Rico. See also the insert that has an update on our ministries through Camp Alta Mons!

Thanks also for your generous support of the baked potato fundraiser (over \$1,000 raised) and a BIG thanks to Terri & Rick Beck for their hard work in making it happen!



JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

4	Hope Patsel
7	Pat Musselwhite
11	Julie Burrell
14	Megan Gilmore
17	<i>Benny & Jenny Basham</i>
19	Naomi Bolling
22	Rick Beck
25	Jonathan Williams, Joshua Williams
29	Connor Whitehead
30	Betty Clark
31	Emily Fisher

NOTE: We include birthdays and anniversaries which are on file. Our list is not complete, so see Jenny Basham to make sure we have your info!

July 14 - "Sunday Sundaes"

Join us for the every-popular "Sunday Sundaes" on July 14 after worship. This will also be our celebration for July birthdays, anniversaries, and other special events!



Update on General Conference

The recent session of the Virginia Conference considered motions related to the 2019 General Conference on how to be an inclusive church for all people. The action of the global General Conference has not been welcomed by the majority of U.S. annual conferences, so there will continue to be much discussion during 2019 and 2020.

On Sunday, August 11, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., Pastor Robert will share an update on the actions in Virginia and what might be ahead for our United Methodist Church. This will include a video update of what has unfolded in the last year. Please continue to be in prayer for the whole church and for all God's people!

Events near and far...

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION continues for sessions at Camp Alta Mons. Go to altamons.org for full information.

VOICES OF YOUTH choir concert and mission trip update is July 9 at 7 p.m. at First UMC Salem. This year's group went to Poland. Come enjoy beautiful music and inspiring stories!

HELPING HANDS CHILDREN'S MISSION EVENT is July 25-26 at Windsor Hills UMC (see article).

CONFERENCE MISSION ENCOUNTER July 26-28 at the Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Camp. Great learning opportunities! This event (formerly School of Christian Mission) has been long a part of the work of United Methodist Women, but is open to men, women, boys and girls!

CAMP RAINBOW CONNECTION (for adults with intellectual disabilities) needs volunteers, July 27-Aug. 2. Email StacyRoberts@vaumc.org.

LAY SERVANT TRAINING August 2-4 at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland.

DISTRICT STEWARDS meet August 6 at Blacksburg UMC.

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN CAMP (for children with an incarcerated parent) needs volunteer mentors and drivers August 11-16. Contact Lori Smith (571-245-9591).

ROANOKE VISION DAY ROUNDTABLE August 14.

DISTRICT COOKOUT AT CAMP ALTA MONS August 24.

PUERTO RICO MISSION TEAM is being organized for September. If you are interested in attending, contact Pastor Seungsoo "RJ" Jun (seungsoojun@vaumc.org).

VIRGINIA MEN'S SPIRITUAL ADVANCE September 27-28 in Virginia Beach. See Pastor Robert for info!

VISIT THE HOLY LAND with Bishop Sharma Lewis in February 2020. See Pastor Robert for a brochure.

MINISTRY WITH ALL AGES!

Children & youth ministry update from Krae!

Terrific Tuesdays took a week off for the holidays and will be back for the rest of July! This is for elementary age and has the theme "Cooking With Jesus." It runs from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and begins with a snack supper (parents are invited for that)! Even if you missed the first sessions, you can still get on board. Register at mpumc.church.

Don't forget Kids Church for the elementary age on the first and third Sundays of each month. We go downstairs at the offering time for a special age-friendly lesson! On the other Sundays, Pastor Robert looks for ways to include the younger set in the worship experience, including the activity/bingo handouts! If you have ideas for making worship more kid-friendly, let him know!

Sunday afternoon youth group continues during the summer, every other Sunday (July 7 and July 21), 5 to 7 p.m. for fun, food and learning. Rising 6th graders come join us – it's your time to move on up! Parents and kids use the LIVE DAILY app that goes along with our lessons. See the youth Facebook page (@mtpleasantyouth) for all the info and for youth group updates!

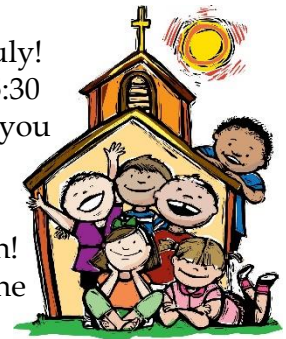
Krae

Children's mission event

Once again there is a two-day Helping Hands mission event for children (4th-6th grade) this summer, and it is right here on Roanoke July 25-26. See Pastor Robert for more info. We would need an adult sponsor in order for children to attend.

Remember your baptism!

When young people do their confirmation, they are invited to touch the water as they hear the timeless words: "Remember your baptism, and be thankful!" On Sunday, June 23, all of us had the opportunity to participate in a baptismal renewal service, and to touch the waters as a remembrance! We also distributed gifts for your household to us – a little card that you can tie onto your bath or shower with a prayer of remembrance. If you didn't get one, we have extras available while supplies last. What a great way to remember the blessings of our baptism in Christ!



Mark these dates...

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Next Step – a 15-20 minute online Bible study and devotional for men – Wednesdays at 9:36 p.m. See Pastor Robert for info on joining this online group!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

MPUMW – the women's unit meets at 11 a.m. for a business meeting, program and salad luncheon. All women, all ages are welcome!

THURSDAY, JULY 11

Meet at church at 11 a.m. to carpool to "Dutch treat" lunch at 2nd Helpings, or join us there at 11:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 13

Second Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m., with food and fellowship afterward! All are welcome!

SUNDAY, JULY 14

Join us for "Sunday Sundaes" after worship!

SUNDAY, JULY 14

Pastor Robert will lead chapel at the Hermitage at 4 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 18

Church Council at 7 p.m. "Open meeting" – you are welcome to attend!

TUESDAY, JULY 23

Lunch Bunch at K&W Tanglewood – meet in entrance area at 11:30 a.m. All are invited!

I
CAN DO
ALL THINGS
THROUGH
Christ
WHO
STRENGTHENS
ME

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

MOUNT PLEASANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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One of the best moments of conference was to hear from Thomas Kemper, general secretary of the UMC Board of Global Ministries. He gave so many examples of how the work of Christ truly spans the globe. It was fascinating to hear about the brand new Methodist

**PASTOR
CHATTER**

Church of Cambodia. This new church was born Sept. 2018 with 140 congregations with average weekly worship attendance of almost 7,000!

The Cambodia church came out of cooperative efforts between Methodist mission groups in Korea, Singapore, China, France, Switzerland and the U.S. Out of 25 provinces in Cambodia, there are five that don't have a Methodist presence, but missionary efforts for them are already underway!

I wish you could have heard Thomas Kemper speak. He serves at the GBGM headquarters in Atlanta, but he is the first non-U.S.-native general secretary (he is a native of Germany). I felt like I was hearing a new Pentecost story unfolding.

I was also excited since my last congregation in Texas has been a longtime supporter of Esther Gitobu, a UMC missionary. She is a native of Kenya, but she and her husband and children have served for years in Cambodia. On top of that, the Virginia Conference has a long-established relationship with Esther! It is a small world!!

Sometimes it is awkward being a denomination that spans so many parts of the globe. But at times like this, my heart is truly warmed!

Pastor Robert

PASTOR OUT & ABOUT

Stop by for chat, coffee or prayer. This can also be an opportunity to bring a friend to "meet your pastor" in a friendly setting.

TUESDAY, JULY 2

*8:00 a.m. Hardees
605 9th St.*

SATURDAY, JULY 13

*8:00 a.m. R. T. Smith's Deli
10 Campbell Ave. SE*

TUESDAY, JULY 16

*1:30 p.m. Belmont Library
1101 Morningside*

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

*3:00 p.m. Mt. Pleasant Library
2918 Jae Valley Rd.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

*11:30 a.m. 2nd Helpings
1502 Williamson Rd. NE*